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SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR 1945



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SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor C. W. Barrand.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor G. G. Crowson.

Members :

Councillor the Hon. Mrs. D. N.	Councillor C. H. Feneley, J.P.
Trollope-Bellew. J.P.	„ T. G. Holmes.
„ Mrs. C. A. Baker.	„ T. H. Pearson.
„ Mrs. B. Palmer.	„ T. E. Peart.
„ the Rev. H. J. W. Hall.	„ A. W. Pratt.
„ the Rev. C Letts, J.P.	„ G. Sandall.
„ the Rev. L. F. Pigott.	„ A. W. Sharman,
	J.P.
„ T. Beaumont.	„ J. L. Spence.
„ E. B. Binns, J.P.	„ G. H. Taylor.
„ C. A. Blason.	„ R. T. Willerton.
„ W. H. Connell.	„ G. A. Charity.
„ A. J. Freeman.	

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health - J. A. Galletly, M.A., M.B., B. Chir.
(Camb.) D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector - Walter A. Chivers, M.R. San. I.
M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector J. G. Clements, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk/Shorthand Typist - Miss T. Boon.

Clerk of the Council - - J. J. C. Goulder.

SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
and**

Chief Sanitary Inspector for the year, 1945.

*To the
Chairman and Members of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my report and that of your
Chief Sanitary Inspector for 1945.

Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area, in acres	...	...	...	...	95,061
Population	...	...	...	...	14,191
Registrar General's figures for 1944			...	...	14,020
Number of inhabited houses	...		...	...	3,907
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£41,564
Sum represented by a 1d. rate			...	...	£172—£175

Vital Statistics (not corrected by Registrar General)

	M	F	Total	Over 90	
				M	F
Births	97	96	193	—	—
Deaths	76	62	138	—	2

Total number of births in 1944 – 265. Male 126 Female 139.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)			...	—

Causes of Death.				M	F
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	I
Influenza	...	...	...	—	I
Cancer	...	...	...	9	I3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	6	5
Heart Disease	...	...	...	23	I7
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	7	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	5
Pneumonia	...	...	...	I	3
Nephritis	...	...	...	2	—
Prematurity	...	...	...	I	—
Suicide	...	...	...	I	—
Violent Causes	...	...	...	2	—
War Operations	...	...	...	I6	—
Senility	...	...	...	4	7
Infantile Convulsions	...	...	...	I	—
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	I	6

Section B. General Provisions of Health Services of the Area.

The health services for the area remain the same. They have been maintained in spite of a shortage of doctors, of nurses and an ever increasing difficulty of getting cases needing hospitalization into hospital. This particularly applies to maternity cases. The better scales of salary for both nursing and domestic staffs, whilst welcome, were inaugurated many years too late to stop the drift away from these occupations, and it will be some years before the proper numbers can be recruited, let alone satisfactory quality.

The numerous School Holiday Camps in the district were given all possible help by your officers, to ensure decent conditions. Scabies has been prevalent again. The work of the Nurse has been hampered by the failure of the Employing Authority, not the South Kesteven Rural District Council, to provide her with transport, and she has therefore been unable to visit the schools.

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The Council are well ahead with detailed plans to take advantage of the 1945 Rural Water Supplies Act.

They have acted with energy and foresight and the plan of their Consulting Engineers will, when carried out, supply pure water throughout the district.

Water samples have been regularly taken and with intermittent exception have been satisfactory.

Section D.

Housing.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector's report reveals how intensive the preparatory work of the Council's officers has been, ready for the colossal task of giving Country-folk houses fit to live in, and as up-to-date as regards electricity and indoor water supply and sanitation, as any in a town.

The Planning Officer working in the closest co-operation with your Sanitary Inspectors has been of the greatest help. The houses to be will be far more attractive to look at than the pre-war houses and worthier of the lovely examples to be found in our villages of a more distant past.

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A detailed report will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report. You will see that milk supervision is not satisfactory. It is a mistake to split responsibility with another authority, in this case the County Council.

Analysis of cases of Infectious Diseases under age groups.

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerpal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Dysentery
0—1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	1
1—2	—	—	—	1	—	—	16	3	—	—
2—3	1	—	—	—	—	1	10	2	—	—
3—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	5	—	1
4—5	3	—	—	1	—	—	12	5	—	1
5—10	1	—	—	—	—	—	66	10	—	8
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	1	—	6
15—20	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	23
20—35	1	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	7
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
45—95	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	3	3
65 and over	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	8	—	4	9	1	1	140	28	4	52
Admitted to Hospital	8	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Isolation Hospital has maintained its high standard of work, despite acute staffing difficulties.

Cancer Deaths.

			Died at Home.		Died away at Hospitals, Institutions, etc.	
			Ages		Ages	
			M	F	M	F
Rectum	...	...	68	—	—	—
			50	—	—	—
Pancreas	...	...	73	—	—	—
Liver	...	...	72	69	—	—
			75	—	—	—
Stomach	...	...	—	65	42	—
			—	72	—	—
			—	61	—	—
Colon	...	...	83	78	71	—
Bowel	...	...	40	66	—	—
Gland	...	...	—	—	75	—
Breast	...	...	—	81	—	—
Mediastinum	...	...	—	72	—	—
Ovary	...	...	—	47	—	—
			—	32	—	—
Tongue	...	...	—	—	68	—
Uterus	...	...	—	72	—	—
Cervix	...	...	—	52	—	—
			—	70	—	—
Brain and Lung	...	...	52	—	—	—
Prostate	...	...	77	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	9	13	4	—

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Under five: 46.21%.

5—15: 99.01% were immunised.

Scabies Cases dealt with.

		Clinic.	Home.
		110	23
Lice	...	13	—

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1945.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 ...	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 ...	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
25 - 30 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 ...	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65 ...	1	-	-	-	-	.	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Again, and for the same reasons as last year, I have not waited for the Registrar General's figures. I wish to thank my fellow officials for their constant and willing help at all times.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. GALLETLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
41, NORTH STREET,
BOURNE, Lincs.

April, 1946.

*To the
Chairman and Members of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the following report regarding the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1945.

1. Statistics.

Total number of inspections made	...	3329
Number of sanitary works completed	...	154
Number of letters and notices despatched		1799

2. Details of Visits.

Water supplies	94	Refuse Collection and	
Drainage	... 382	Disposal	... 14
Stables and Piggeries	4	Rats and Mice	... 4
Fried Fish Shops	4	Salvage	... 248
Tents, Vans and Sheds	8	Building Licences	98
Bakehouses	... 9	Housing Inspections	1765
Slaughterhouses	250	Infectious Disease	6
Meat Shops	... 10	Cowsheds and Dairies	65
Milk Samples	... 82	Ice Cream premises	2
Petroleum Acts	... 7	Miscellaneous	... 277

3. Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies.

(a) *Milk.* 65 inspections were carried out at cowsheds and dairies in the district during the year and various minor infringements of the Milk and Dairies Order were remedied by personal interview or by the service of informal notices. Several cowsheds were re-constructed during the year, but it is a matter for regret that more time cannot be given to this work.

The supervision of food supplies is one of the most important duties carried out by Public Health Officers and it is to be hoped that additional staff will be appointed in the near future so that adequate supervision of cowsheds and dairies can be given. The Council has, in its area, over 240 cowsheds, and these should be inspected at least four times per year.

50 samples of milk were taken from producers in the district and submitted for biological examination. In all cases, the analyst's report showed that the milk was free from tubercle bacilli.

(b) *Meat and other foods.* The introduction of centralised slaughterhouses in 1940 was one of the undoubted blessings brought about by war-time controls and it is to be hoped that the Government will continue this control of livestock in the future. Although the work of the Meat Inspector has become more onerous, the general public is assured of the fact that its meat supply is wholesome and free from disease which was certainly not the case throughout the country in the years preceding 1939.

It is of interest to record the amounts of condemned meat for the five years preceding and the five years succeeding and including 1940, in order to illustrate the vigilance which is and can now be given to this work.

Weight of Condemned Meat.

Year	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
1935	1	10	28
1936		19	90
1937		14	55
1938	2	3	2
1939	3	7	104 $\frac{1}{2}$
1940	11	4	1
1941	17	16	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
1942	17	9	39 $\frac{1}{2}$
1943	18	7	32 $\frac{3}{4}$
1944	17	5	105 $\frac{1}{2}$

The following animals, a total of 4598, were inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bourne, during the year:

Bulls.	Bullocks.	Cows.	Heifers.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
20	443	270	248	167	3089	361

As a result of such inspections, the following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :

2 bullocks' carcasses and all offals	1819 lbs.	Moribund.
3 cows' carcasses and all offals	1758	„ „
1 calf's carcass and all offals ...	96	„ „
3 sheep's carcasses and all offals	257	„ „
1 lamb's carcass and all offals	45	„ „
1 pig's carcass and all offals ...	212	„ „
1 calf's carcass and all offals ...	91	„ Pyaemia.
3 cows' carcasses and all offals	2000	„ Septicaemia.
1 heifer's carcass and all offals	244	„ Septic Pericarditis.
1 heifer's carcass and all offals	363	„ Acute Pericarditis.
1 cow's carcass and all offals ...	690	„ Septic Metritis.
1 pig's carcass and all offals ...	160	„ Fevered.
1 sheep's carcass and all offals	102	„ Dystokia.
1 sheep's carcass and all offals	74	„ Peritonitis and Emaciation.
2 cows' carcasses and all offals ...	958	„ Emaciation and Dropsy.
1 heifer's carcass and all offals	389	„ „
2 sheep's carcasses and all offals	131	„ „
1 pig's carcass and all offals ...	79	„ „
1 pig's carcass and all offals ...	168	„ General Dropsy.
1 sheep's carcass and all offals	53	„ Abscesses and Dropsy.
7 calves' carcasses and all offals	271	„ Immaturity.
3 pigs' carcasses and all offals ...	384	„ Swine Erysipelas.
1 cow's carcass and all offals ...	629	„ Tuberculosis and Fever.
2 bullocks' carcasses and all offals	935	„ Tuberculosis with Emaciation.
6 cows' carcasses and all offals	3252	„ „
1 heifer's carcass and all offals	437	„ „
1 bull's carcass and all offals ...	1104	„ Generalised T.B.
4 bullocks' carcasses and all offals	3467	„ „
17 cows' carcasses and all offals	12073	„ „
4 heifers' carcasses and all offals	3377	„ „
6 pigs' carcasses and all offals ...	1062	„ „
Parts of carcasses and various offals of all food animals ...	14514 $\frac{1}{4}$	„ Various diseases too numerous to record individually.

Total weight of unsound food voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :

22 Tons. 17 Cwts. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

4. Housing.

It is gratifying to record that the Council realised, at the outset, the importance of the Hobhouse Report on Rural Housing and that no time was lost in implementing the obligations placed upon the Local Authority in this connection.

Standards of fitness for the cottages of rural workers were adopted by the County Housing Advisory Committee and this Rural District, by appointing an Additional Sanitary Inspector, was able to get off the mark quickly, and up to the 31st December, 1945, had a considerable amount of progress to report, as shown by the undermentioned table of statistics obtained as a result of the Rural Housing Survey.

Rural Housing Survey, 1945.

VILLAGE	Categorisation of Houses					Premises not Categorised	Total houses Inspected
	1	2	3	4	5		
Aslackby & Laughton		4	47	12	8		71
Barholm & Stowe			18	12	3		33
Baston ...	3	11	62	33	31		140
Billingborough	29	14	180	12	39	19	293
Braceborough & Wilsthorpe ...			22	4	8		34
Castle Bytham ...	12	4	79	6	51	2	154
Little Bytham ...	1	1	50	3	29		84
Corby ...				1			1
Dowsby ...			3				3
Dunsby Fen ...				8			8
Folkingham ...			3	3	6		12
Haconby ...	8	1	38	5	27		79
Horbling ...	5		15	6	5	1	32
Irnham ...					5		5
Market Deeping					1		1
Morton ...	6	11	109	12	81	3	222
Millthorpe ...		1			1		2
Tallington ...				3			3
Totals ...	64	47	626	120	295	25	1177

It will be noted, from these figures, that from the preliminary survey, it has been found that 295 cottages cannot be rendered fit at a reasonable cost and that they should be demolished.

This revelation that 25% of the houses so far inspected are beyond repair shows how much rural housing has been neglected in the past. The present trend of the agricultural worker drifting from the country-side to the town can be arrested if, amongst other things, he is given the same amenities and comforts as those enjoyed by the town dweller and not the least important is a well constructed place of abode with a pure and wholesome water supply, bathroom and up-to-date sanitation.

It is of the utmost importance that the high standards of fitness adopted by most County Housing Advisory Committees should be rigidly adhered to in order that Rural Housing may be brought up to a decent level.

5. Drainage.

Drainage problems continue to become more acute as each year passes and the Council's decision to provide new sewerage schemes in the larger centres of population (viz: Baston, Billingborough, Langtoft, Market Deeping, Deeping St. James, Horbling and Corby) at an estimated cost of £110,000 on 1939 prices, is to be greatly commended.

It is imperative, however, that the central Government should assist Rural District Councils in these projects with a high percentage of financial assistance.

Even when the above schemes are carried through, however the Council will still be left with many insanitary sewage outfalls in other villages, and unless further financial assistance is forthcoming, nuisances will continue to be created in many parishes. It cannot be too far distant before the parishes of Morton and Thurlby will have to be provided with satisfactory sewage disposal schemes and it is to be hoped that, eventually, a joint sewerage scheme will be decided upon in conjunction with the Bourne Urban District Council.

All complaints of nuisances arising from defective or choked drainage have been dealt with during the year and watercourses in 16 parishes were rodded and/or cleansed..

6. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Since my last Annual Report, when I drew attention to the fact that the need for a comprehensive Scheme of Refuse Collection and Disposal was urgent, the Council has entered into a contract with Messrs. H. S. Manley & Co., of Letchworth, for this firm to undertake Refuse Collection and Disposal throughout the Council's area at a cost of £1,250 per annum.

The scheme provides for a kerb-side collection of refuse to be given fortnightly to those parishes which have 100 or more houses, and monthly to those which have less than 100 houses.

The scheme will be instituted on the 1st June, 1946, and will satisfy a long-felt want in addition to obviating the many unsightly dumps of tins which have sprung up during recent years on roadside grass verges.

The Council proposes, at some future date, to improve this scheme by giving a fortnightly collection to all parishes.

When the new scheme comes into effect, the work of salvage collection, which has hitherto been undertaken by the Council will be merged with the Refuse Collection Service. In connection with salvage, the returns during the year under review have decreased considerably but this was not unexpected in view of the fact that, in this area, for six long war years, the collection in the villages was undertaken by members of the Women's Voluntary Services under the leadership of Mrs. D. R. Lowther (County Organiser) and Mrs. E. M. Williams (Salvage Secretary, South Kesteven). There was bound to be a reaction on the part of the general public and the W.V.S. when hostilities terminated, nevertheless, on behalf of the Council, I must record our gratitude to the above-mentioned ladies, the various W.V.S. village salvage officers, salvage stewards, schoolteachers and schoolchildren for their invaluable assistance in this work. It is of interest to note that, up the 31st December, 1945, 629 tons 15½ cwts. of salvage was collected which realised in cash £2,949 15s. 9d., since the institution of the Council's Salvage Scheme on the 1st July, 1940.

Details of materials collected and sold during the year are as follows :

Materials				Weight			Cash realised		
				Tons	Cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
1. PAPER, etc.									
(a)	Cardboard	...	...	11	16	56	72	3	5
(b)	Mixed Waste	...	...	6	18	84	44	4	4
(c)	Magazines and Books	...	...	8	10	84	76	13	4
(d)	Newsprint	...	...	2	0	0	19	16	9
(e)	Mixed Browns	...	...		17	56	6	2	6
(f)	Selected Waste	...	...	1	13	56	11	14	6
2.	RAGS	...	...	1	5	56	25	10	0
3.	SACKING	...	...	1	3	0	4	12	0
4.	BONES	...	...	2	5	56	11	11	8
<hr/>									
Totals	...	...	...	36	11	0	272	8	6

7. Water Supplies.

The Council has at present in its area fifteen separate water installations owned by them, and these schemes serve a population ranging from approximately 70 to 2,770 persons in 27 of the 34 parishes in the district. The remaining seven villages and hamlets rely in general on private wells, springs and boreholes.

In view of the unsatisfactory nature of some of the schemes, the Council engaged Consulting Engineers to make a report on the existing installations and to put forward recommendations for the future.

The Consulting Engineers recommended after, making a survey of the district, that in order to supply satisfactorily the present and future needs of the whole of the district, the Council should adopt the following proposals :

- (a) The Council to purchase water in bulk from the Spalding Urban District Council Water Undertaking in Bourne, to supply the villages and hamlets of Dunsby, Haconby, Morton, Hanthorpe, Stainfield, Bulby, Hawthorpe, Irnham, Elsthorpe, Grimsthorpe, Edenham, Scottlethorpe, Corby, Swayfield, Swinstead, Couthorpe, Creeton, Little Bytham, Castle Bytham, Holywell, Careby, Lound, Toft, Witham-on-the-Hill, Manthorpe, Northorpe, Thurlby, Aunby and Carlby, a territory embracing approximately 50% of the total area of the Rural District.
- (b) Improvements and extensions to the Council's existing installations at Billingborough to supply the villages and hamlets of Bridge End, Horbling, Billingborough, Birthorpe, Folkingham, Laughton, Aslackby, Pointon, Millthorpe, Little Dowsby, Graby, Dowsby, Rippingale and Kirkby Underwood.
- (c) The Council to purchase water in bulk from the Peterborough Corporation Water Undertaking, and to improve and extend the existing installations at Tallington and Uffington, to supply the villages and hamlets of Baston, Langtoft, Market Deeping, Deeping St. James, Wilsthorpe, Braceborough, Greatford, Barholm, Tallington, West Deeping and Uffington.

These proposals, estimated to cost £62,500 on 1939 prices, have been approved by the Council, and when carried out, will ensure that a sufficient and pure supply of water can be given to all the properties in the Rural District.

Samples of water were taken during the year from all the Council's water installations and submitted for bacteriological and chemical analyses. These were all reported to be satisfactory with the exception of the samples taken from the Corby and Swayfield supplies. Various suggestions were made, in consultation with the Council's Water Engineer, for improvements to be made and at the end of the year the necessary works were in hand.

WATER SAMPLES.

From Council's Installations	...	...	16
From private wells, springs, etc.	...	...	26

In conclusion, I wish to thank my fellow officials and members of the Council for their courtesy and co-operation extended to me during the year in the discharge of the many and varied duties of the Public Health Department, and my staff for their loyal support and devotion to duty.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER A. CHIVERS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

